A Short report of the honourable Iourney into *Brabant*, by his Excellencie *Graue Mauris*, Gouernour and Lord Generall of the vnited Netherlandiſh Prouinces: From the 26. day of Iune, to the 19. day of Iuly, 1602.

Together with the taking of Helmont, *and of his marching to the ſtrong Towne of* Graue.

Maurice, Prince of Orange.

Tranſlated out of the Dutch Copie Printed at *Vtricht*.

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1602.

BRITISH MUSEUM

A SHORT REport of the Honorable Iourney into *Brabant*, by his Excellencie *Graue Mauris*, Gouernor and Lord Generall of the vnited *Netherlandiſh Prouinces. From the 26. day of Iune, to the 19. day of Iuly.*

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AFter that his Princely Excellencie, with the honourable Lordes the States, had in the feare of God cõcluded by the moſt commodious and fitteſt meanes to ſuccor and preuent the neceſſitie and tedious ſiege of Oſtende, with intent once wholy to free the Netherlãdiſh Prouinces from the bloudie yoke of the Tyrannical Spaniards and hipocriticall murtherous Ieſuites, which daily practiſe to trouble, not only the welfare of the Netherlandiſh Prouinces, generally, (but alſo to ſuppreſſe and murther all good, godly, bleſſed, and peaceable Kings, Princes, and

Potentates) that so in time they might with more ease incorporate the said Netherlandish Provinces. To the end therefore that the said Honourable Lords the States with his princely Excellency, might once wholy shake off those common enemies from the neck of those Provinces generally, and establish a firme and an assured peace, they haue thought it conuenient to raise and bring into the fields a strong and honourable Campe, as well for the reliefe of Ostend, as also to deliuer the rest of the Netherlandish Provinces from the yoke of the tyrannous Spanyards & bloudie Edicts, to which end hath bene assembled many outlandish souldiers, both horsmen & footemen, with great numbers of wagons, as well out of Brabant & Vtricht, as from Holland and other places, wherof many were couered, and some curiously painted with ỳ Armes of nobles and gentlemen for their ease & rest in the night, which had their *rendes-vous* neare the toll-house beyond Nimmeghen.

Now when the greatest number were assembled at the said place, they attended his Excellencies comming, who departed from the Grauen-haeghe the eight day of June in the morning, to take muster of his Royal Camp, which he accomplished vpon the Eltenberge heath, and (finding the same to be betweens 5. and 6. thousand horsmen, 28. thousand footemen, and neare about 4. thousand wagons, well, and in good order mounted and furnished) he with the honourable Lords the States, passed through the whole army, demanding as well of the Cauallery, as of the Infantery, if there were any one amongst them that found himselfe agreeued with the pay of the States, and if any such were, they should speake: but none hauing cause to complaine, they demaunded farther, if they were resolued

resolued to hazard their lines with them in this most ho-
nourable action, to the glorie of God, and welfare of their
father Land, whereunto the souldiers generally applau-
ded, desiring nothing more then ý they might be brought
to the sight of their enemies, against whom they might
with their weapons, rather then with words, shew how
greatly they were affected to manifest their courages,
and once again to driue those common enemies of Chri-
stendome out of the fields, and to make them run before
them as sheepe.

Hereupon his Excellency caused certaine bridges to
be laid ouer the Maze, and the 26. day of June began to
set forward in so good order, that it seemed no lesse won-
derfull, then pleasant and glorious to behold so rare an ar-
my of the honorable Lords the States, marching in most
warlike order, and diuided into three troupes or compa-
nies, euery one flancked with wagons for their defence
as they marched, with many field peeces, and other neces-
saries thereunto belonging: The first troupe or compa-
ny was ledde by his Excellencie: The second by Graue
William, and the third by Graue Ernst or Ernestus, in
very good order: Notwithstanding the misdemeanour of
some selfe-willed souldiers, as in the beginning appea-
red by one, who forced a woman, and was therefore
presently hanged. After that two Scottish souldiers fel
together by the eares, the one (hauing wounded the other
to the death) were forthwith by Martiall discipline har-
quebushed.

Thus keeping their course along by the side of the
Maze, on the left hande of the saide River by Venlo,
Ruremonde, and other places neare about Mastricke,
they lay still fiue dayes, furnishing themselues with

Beere,

Béere, Bread, and other victualls, for they had brought with them many Ouens to bake their Bread. After sufficient prouision made, they marched forward towards Tongheren, and so vpwards to Truyen, within some halfe league of Lew, forcing all the Villages thereabouts to bring in their contributions, which amounted to an incredible summe of money.

As they lay quietly at this place, it happened that some of our souldiers raunged a little too farre, and were by the Moores entrapped and slaine. In reuenge whereof certaine Horsemen were sent out, who not forgetting their arrant, slew diuers Moores, and Horsemen, and brought with them to the Campe, eighteene Horsemen prisoners, and two gray Friars.

After that his Princely Excellency had remayned at this place a fewe dayes, and put his people into Battaile order, hée sent a Trumpetter vnto the Admirall of Arragon, Generall for the Archduke (who had intrenched himselfe verie strongly neare vnto the Towne of Tien) signifying vnto him, that he was now readie to giue him Battaile, and that therefore hée should now performe his proud words héeretofore vttered when he was prisoner if he had the courage. But he answered he had no Commission from the Archduke to fight, and so preserued his honour and reputation as he thought.

After this, his Excellencie as a valiant Prince marched towards the enemy with certaine horse and foote, euen to his Trenches, but the enemy kept himselfe close. His Excellencie perceiuing that the Admirall durst not shewe himselfe in the field notwithstanding that he was come so farre to séeke him, he suddainly turned backe, and comming neare vnto Helmont, summoned the same,

but

but after refusall made, his Excellencie planted sixe péces of Ordenance against the walles, and after some shot made, at the last vpon the 18. day of this Moneth of July they yelded the Towne, and then his Excellencie marched to the Towne of Graue, enuironed and besieged the same, and toke the Castle of Batenborgh, which standeth on the other side of the Maze. Our people dow fortifie Helmont and Eyndouen, seruing as Bulwarkes or Forts vnto our Campe.

The euerliuing, Almightie, and potentiall God, vouchsafe to bleſſe and kéepe his Excellencie, and to further all his godly procéedings: and graunt happie & prosperous effect to his attempts, for the generall peace and quietnes of all the Lowe Countries. Amen.

As touching Ostend, the Towne is (God be praised) in very good tearmes, although many of late haue died by sicknes, which lately is ceased, and the enemy continueth his siege, though more coldly then heretofore, and his Forces without the Town is not aboue 3000. men, and the same so vexed with sickneſſe and the plague, that many die daily. They haue no want in the Towne, for although the enemy practiseth daily whatsoeuer meanes mans braine is able to inuent, to restraine the comming in of shippes, with men, munition, and other prouisions necessary, yet God and the seas dow so frustrate their designes, that the enemie without all doubt remaineth void of all hope by any force to winne the same: But if any demaund the reason why he then so obstinately continueth his siege, the reason is the haughtineſſe of his mind, ashamed that it should be published to the worlde, that the

States should be able to defend so baggage a Towne against all his forces, and to make good the defence therof against so many his policies, practises, and deuises, thinking the same in time to come, might redound to his perpetuall disgrace, and contrariwise incourage and animate the States his enemies, as well as other Princes to despise his Forces, and contemne the valour of his Italians and Spaniards, on whose vertue & manhood, the Archduke so much standeth (as his predecessors, and other Spanish Gouernors haue done before him) that he thinketh no Nation comparable vnto them, nor able to compare with them in martiall affaires, not calling to remembrance how often they haue bene foyled, and put to the worst, since these warres first begunne, both by Sea and Lande, not onely by the native people of the Low Countries, but also by seuerall Souldiers of sundrie Nations. It is not then greatly to bee marueiled at, that the Archduke continueth his siege before Ostende, (though more coldly and sparingly then at the first, as is before saide) seeing he feedeth himselfe with two vaine expectations, for (saith he) *Omne tempus habet*, supposing that the States wearie of so infinite a charge, may in time forget to supply the wants of the Towne, or else that it may so fall out, that with Spanish pollicies, hee may corrupt some such in the Towne, that he may at last attaine to his wished desire: for without all doubt he neither hath, nor can haue any other hope to obtaine the Towne, although he lie before it these seuen yeares, for all such as come out of Brabant or Flanders, confirme this to be most true, and to be the opinion of the Duke himselfe, and of all his Spaniards and Spanish affected.

God

God graunt they may neuer haue better hope in any of their bloudie attempts. But if any will heere say that there remaineth yet an other hope to the Archduke, namely that the Sea may waste and eate vp the towne, so as the States Forces may be forced to abandon the same, &c.

I will not say, but if it so please God, both the Towne and all the Countrey may be swallowed vp with the sea, but if the olde Towne be in some daunger, yet the new Towne is not so: but if both should happen to be in danger, no doubt the States are so prouident of their defence and maintenance of their Trade (which otherwise without all doubt would be greatly hindered, by Gallyes and other shipping which might there haue conuenient harbour) that they would there builde some conuenient Forte, which should no lesse annoy the enemie then the Towne of Ostend it selfe doeth or hath done, for the keeping of that place doth most highly concerne all Hollande and Zealande, and all other Nations which are accustomed to trafficque to and from those Countries.

It is written from Rome, to be most certaine, that vpon Wednesday last being the 20. day of this Moneth of July, the Marshall Byron was beheaded at Paris, not openly, but in the Towre there, called the Bastill. God graunt all Traytors may receiue the like reward. It is said that very many great personages are of his conspiracie, what will follow, time will shewe.

The Copie of a Letter

sent from Middlebrough by Mai. E. D. to his friend in London.

WHerein is shewed, that since the 19. day of July, 1602. his Excellencie continuing his siege before the Towne of Graue, tooke a Forte made ouer the River Mosa, and from thence battered the Towne where it is weakest, hee is in great hope and likelihood to winne it shortly, being not easie to be rescued: But at the other side of the Mosa, which without some fight is not easily to be done. We heare the Admirall hath sent supply towards Flanders, fearing some attempt by an other way thereabout. And about Turnhout likewise the enemy made some assembly, and about Venlo. The Prince Mauris issued in great haste forth of his Campe, with some ten thousand footemen, and foure thousand Horse, making towards them, what successe will happen we shall shortly know. There are as it is reported, some two thousand men in Graue, the Princes Horsemen raunge about Hertigenbosche, so that it is like halfe besieged lacking necessaries: And Brabant is cleane eaten vp as well of the Spanish as of our souldiers, but by meanes of the River Mosa our Campe lacketh nothing. Many other places be taken here and there

there of no great moment. We heare here little of the Archduke. The Counsell of States generall are gone toward the Camp: Some negociation vnderhand is imagined, which time will bring to light. There is good order and discipline kept all about.

Of Ostend we heare nothing but good: For the great huge Fagots filled with stones, called Puddings or Sauciges to be rolled, cannot be stirred, and they haue cut them in two, but it will not be of any moment, they must begin some other invention.

FINIS.